

2003-04 WorkFirst Local Area Planning - Innovative Project Funding Request

Name of project: Grant Writing Request Amount: ☒ Innovative Project \$2,903

Local Planning Area: Clarkston/Colfax _____

Contact: Patricia Busse _____

Telephone: (509)751-4603 _____ E-mail: Bussepa@dshs.wa.gov

Address: 525 5th St. Clarkston, WA 99403 _____

Project period start/end date(s): October 15-17, 2003 and Oct 6-10, 2003

Funding to be used for:

☐ Project: Start/End Date: _____

☐ Equipment: _____

☐ Software: _____

☒ Staff Training: \$2,850.

☒ Other: Resource books \$400 _____

Does this project involve Business Outreach, WorkFirst/WorkSource, and/or employers? ☒ Yes ☐ No

(If yes, please indicate whether or not your local Business Outreach Team is involved in the project and what their role is.)

Local employers who are part of our LPA shall be attending the training. _____

The focus of Innovative Project Funding is to support WorkFirst partnership, program performance, and potential "Best Practices" through innovation. All project requests will be reviewed and approved by an interagency committee. There will be a 2-week turn around on request approvals once received. Approvals will come in the form of an email to the LPA lead submitting the request.

All requests require:

- A two-page (maximum) narrative addressing the questions below.
- Partnership signatures.
- A complete budget page.
- Approved projects will be required to complete an end of the project report.
- **Final billing must be submitted to Kelly Lindseth prior to Friday, June 25, 2004.**

Additional information maybe requested in order to approve your project. LPAs may submit multiple requests throughout the program year or until funding is exhausted.

1.	<p>Describe your project, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does this project support overall WorkFirst performance goals– caseload reduction, TWI, other? • How many persons will be served through the project and what is the expected outcome? • If additional resources will be used to support this project, where will they come from?
	<p><i>We are asking for the funds to send 6 of our partners from Clarkston and Colfax to a one day grant writing seminar to be held at Washington State University. We would also like to send 2 of those to an in-depth, 5 day grant writing course to be held in Moses Lake. Many of the barriers we are seeing with clients- low income housing, transportation, vocational training, dental care- are not funded sufficiently and need to be "fixed" on a community wide basis in order to address the needs of low income families. This community needs to make use of the grants that are available to meet the needs of the community. We have agreed to form a grant-writing team- indeed we have written two grants, one of which was successful- to research and write grants for the community. None of the team members have the training necessary to make the grant writing process as efficient as it can be.</i></p> <p><i>Valley Transit will provide transportation to the Pullman training at no cost.</i></p>
2.	<p>What makes this project innovative?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What unserved need is to be addressed and for what specific population? • What is the project overall design? • What is the desired outcome? • Who will this project focus on – clients, staff, contractors, employers, other? • Should this project prove successful, what is your strategy to support beyond this initial funding? • How will you measure the success of this project?
	<p><i>We are small community agencies with no staff dedicated to grant writing. The grant writing is being completed by people attempting to find the time in their already busy schedules and without the necessary knowledge to truly meet the intentions of the grant writing projects. We can streamline our grant requests by being trained in grant writing. The grants will be used to improve services to low income families. Our community activities can be created using grant funds and we can sufficiently research ways to keep projects going beyond grant timeframes.</i></p> <p><i>While the initial project assists partners in getting the education needed to streamline grant application activities, the entire community will be rewarded with the grant results. For example, a local team worked</i></p>

	<p><i>together with the Housing Authority to receive funding that created a fixed route transit system. This has resulted in free dependable transportation for TANF families gaining self-sufficiency. Currently, the system provides over 4800 rides per month, a figure that continues to rise. This has demonstrated the need for this service and the high numbers that local government entities did not think would be realized. We will be able to measure the success of this project by the number of grants applied for and received. This can be a project that can extend beyond the current TANF needs and help people remain self-sufficient and off of TANF and other assistance programs in the future.</i></p>
3.	<p>Partnerships.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who are the partners that will be involved in the project? • If there are new partners involved in this project, who are they and what is their role? • Are other resources being used to support this project, if so, from where? • How will this project strengthen your existing partnership?
	<p><i>We are anticipating that representatives from Valley Transit, Employment Security, Walla Walla Community College, Community Services, Asotin Health District, and Clarkston School District will participate in this project. Although we have worked with the school district for several years, our collaboration has increased significantly over the past several months and we anticipate it will continue to increase.</i></p> <p><i>Our partners will be allowing staff time to attend the workshops. Valley Transit will provide transportation to the Pullman site, and the CSO will provide the transportation to the Soap Lake site.</i></p> <p><i>We have a strong partnership. As we write successful grant applications, our current function and role in the community will become more significant. Our partnership will expand to include groups and activities dedicated to keeping families stable and keeping them from reaching the point where they need full assistance. By bringing grant funds into the communities we serve, we will be able to generate more interest and action for low income and vulnerable families.</i></p>

Additional Comments/Thoughts:

Because of reductions in federal, state, and local funding, communities need to look to grant opportunities to fund services for vulnerable populations. Grants require specific formats, information, and statistics. We would like this opportunity to gain the tools and knowledge that could help us make a tough job less difficult and more successful for our communities. The cost of this project could translate into community- and life-changing projects- a high yield investment in our LPA.

Please email this form and/or mail or FAX it with all Local Area Planning partner signatures to:

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